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Terri L. Fox

(signature)

Date of signature and deposit - April 20, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: CLIFFORD et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3751
)	
Serial No.: 10/691,763)	Examiner:
)	
Filed: October 23, 2003)	Attorney Docket: 16129
)	
For: MODULAR PAINTING APPARATUS)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Sir:

Pursuant to Sections 1.97 and 1.98 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, record is hereby made of published prior art which the United States Patent and Trademark Office may wish to consider during examination of the above-entitled application. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search was conducted, or that no better art than that listed is available.

U.S. Patent Documents - No., Date, Name

4,931,322 Jun. 5, 1990 Yamamoto et al.

Foreign Patent Documents - No., Date, Country

0 084 523 Jul. 27, 1983 European

WO 01/34309 May 17, 2001 PCT

Publications - Author, Title, Date, Pages, Place

None

Other Information

Willamette Valley #105920, Preliminary Robcad Reach Study, Fanuc P-200T 5.0 Meter Linear Travel Robot, pages 1-3

Commonly assigned and co-pending Application Serial No. 10/691,939, filed on October 23, 2003, claims the benefit of the same three provisional patent applications as does the above-entitled application.


The above-identified patent references were cited in a PCT International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed. Applicants' file reference number and the International application number listed on the ISR correspond to the PCT application related to the above-identified co-pending U.S. application. However, Applicants believe that the European Patent Office confused the two applications since the subject matter of the cited documents and the numbers of the claims clearly relate to the PCT application corresponding to the above-entitled application.

The above-entitled application claims the benefit of three provisional patent applications having filing dates of October 23, 2002, October 24, 2002 and November 4, 2002. The Other Information cited above depicts a robotic apparatus on sale or in public use more than one year prior to those filing dates.

The apparatus shown on pages 1-3 of the Other Information has a pair of supporting posts positioned on opposite sides of a conveyor. A beam extends transverse to the direction of travel of the conveyor and is attached at upper ends of the posts. A material transfer robot moves along the beam.

A copy of each of the foreign references and the Other Information is enclosed herewith along with Form PTO-1449. It is requested that each of the references be fully considered and made of record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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